

U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation 2012

Since fiscal year 2001, the U.S. government through the Department of State has provided direct small grant support to developing countries in all regions of the world for the preservation of cultural sites, cultural collections, and forms of traditional cultural expression, such as music, dance and language under the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP). “By taking a leading role in the efforts to preserve cultural heritage, we show our respect for other cultures,” U.S. Congress (2001).

Project Categories - AFCP supports preservation projects in the following three categories:

1. **Cultural Objects and Collections** from a museum, site or similar institution:
This includes archaeological and ethnographic objects, paintings, sculpture, manuscripts, photographic and film collections and general museum conservation activities.
Proposals in this category may involve, for example:
 - Conservation treatment for an object or collection of objects;
 - Needs assessment of a collection, its condition and strategies for improving conservation purposes;
 - The creation of safe environments for storage or display of collections;
 - Specialized training in the care and preservation of collections;
2. **Cultural Sites** includes, but is not limited to, historical buildings and sites, sacred places, monuments, and archaeological sites. Proposals in this category may involve for example:
 - Restoration of an historic building;
 - An archaeological survey as a component of a preservation plan;
 - Preservation management planning for a site;
 - Documentation of sites in a region for preservation purposes;
3. **Forms of Traditional Cultural Expression** include traditional music, rituals, knowledge, languages, dance, drama and crafts. Proposals in this category may involve for example:
 - Documenting and audiovisual recording of traditional music and dance forms as part of traditional expression and making the information and recordings available to the public;
 - Support for training in the preservation of traditional arts or crafts threatened by extinction

Project Size – AFCP supports small, medium and large scale projects and may also support phased and pilot projects whose methods and outcomes advance long-term cultural preservation objectives, lay the groundwork for subsequent AFCP-supported activities, or encourage the continued or expanded application of proven methods at the project site or elsewhere

Exclusions – AFCP does not support the following:

- Preservation or purchase of privately or commercially-owned cultural objects, collections or property;
- Conservation of natural heritage (physical, biological and geological formations, paleontological collections, habitats of threatened species of animals and plants fossils etc);
- Preservation of news media (newspaper, newsreels, etc);
- Archaeological excavations or surveys for research purposes;

- Historical research, except in cases where historical research is justifiable and integral to the success of the proposed project;
- Construction of new buildings;
- Commissions of new works (arts/performances) for commemoration or economic development;
- Acquisition or creation of new collections for new or existing museums;
- Creation of replicas or re-creation of cultural objects or sites that no longer exist;
- Relocation of objects/collections, unless part of a larger, clearly defined conservation effort;
- Remove of cultural objects or elements of cultural sites from the county for any reason;
- Cash reserves, endowments or revolving funds – funds must be expected within the award period and may not be used to create an endowment or revolving fund or spent over many years;
- Costs of fund-raising campaigns for preservation;
- Costs for administrative time or materials not directly related to performing project work;
- Costs of work performed prior to announcement of the award;
- Contingency or miscellaneous fees;
- Administrative staff or administrative fees greater than 5% of the overall project costs;
- International travel, except in cases where travel for outside specialists is justifiable and integral to success of the proposed project (international travel is considered on a case-by-case basis);
- Awards to individuals.

Proposal Requirements – All project proposals must include information of the following:

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| • Purpose and summary | • Recipient information |
| • Description | • CVs of project coordinator and professional staff |
| • Time frame | • Official permission to undertake the project |
| • Statement of significance | • Other funding sources (if any) |
| • Statement of urgency | • At least three digital images (JPEGs) or audiovisual files |
| • Rationale for U.S. support | of the site, object, or form of expression to be addressed |
| • Detailed project budget | in the proposed project. |

Who Can Apply – Project proposals will be accepted from among the following:

- Non-governmental organizations
- Museums
- Government Ministries of Culture or similar institutions

Review and Selection Process – A U.S. Embassy committee reviews all submitted project proposals and vets all prospective recipients for suitability and reputable performance in cultural preservation or similar activities and submits them to a U.S.-based selection panel for final review.

Reporting requirements – Awards recipients must submit incremental progress reports and final reports.

For Further Details – Embassy of the United States of America Public Affairs Office, Tel: 260-211-357000, extension 7034, <http://zambia.usembassy.gov>.